

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 16917 151837Z

64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 151821Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3649

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16917

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VIEWS ON ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AND US TRADE POLICY

1. IN DISCUSSING CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S RECENT TRIP TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, CHANCELLERY FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR LOECK TOLD ECON/COMM MINISTER THAT THE CHANCELLOR HAD INTENDED HIS NEW YORK ADDRESS TO BE A TWO-PRONGED EXPRESSION OF HIS VIEWS ON WHAT HE CONSIDERS THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES FACING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, I.E., THE NECESSITY FOR HARMONIZATION OF US AND EEC MEASURES FOR COMBATING THE WORLD RECESSION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW AND EFFECTIVE NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONSHIP.

2. AT NEW YORK, LOECK SAID, THE CHANCELLOR WAS SPEAKING FOR A WORLD AUDIENCE WHEN HE EMPHASIZED HIS FIRM CONVICTION THAT THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES MUST FIND EFFECTIVE AND PRACTICAL WAYS TO ASSIST THE DEVELOPING NATIONS WITHOUT DESTROYING THE FREE MARKET SYSTEM. LOECK ADDED THAT THE CHANCELLOR IS ANNOYED WITH THE DUTCH FOR THEIR EAGERNESS TO ACCEPT LDC PROPOSALS THAT WILL CLEARLY NOT CONTRIBUTE TO SOLUTIONS. THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES ARE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT, SCHMIDT BELIEVES, AND SHOULD ROW TOGETHER.

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3. LOECK SAID THAT SCHMIDT IS VERY CONCERNED AT WHAT HE SEES AS A PROTECTIONIST TURN IN US TRADE POLICY AND HAS DISCUSSED WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN TO MAKE FRG VIEWS BETTER KNOWN TO USG. ACCORDING TO LOECK, THE CHANCEILOR IS NOT WILLING TO RELY ON EC REPRESENTATIONS ALONE BUT INTENDS TO MAKE BILATERAL REPRESENTATIONS. ECON/COMM MINISTER, DRAWING ON STATE 233115 AND RECENT STATEMENTS BY STR DENT AND SECRETARY MORTON, URGED LOECK TO PRESENT A FULL DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT US TRADE POSTURE TO THE CHANCELLOR SO THAT HE WILL UNDERSTAND ALL THE RAMIFICATIONS OF WHAT IS HAPPENING.

4. LOECK EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL DISPLEASURE WITH THE BRITISH DETERMINATION TO SEEK A SEPARATE SEAT AT THE CONFERENCE OF 27, REMARKING THAT IF BRITAIN HAS A SEPARATE SEAT THEN GERMANY SHOULD HAVE ONE TOO. HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, TRADE, POLICIES, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN16917
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750358-0231
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751053/aaaabupq.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VIEWS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND US TRADE POLICY
TAGS: ETRD, GE, US, EEC, (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006